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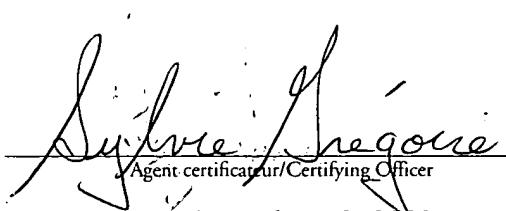
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Specification and Drawings, as originally filed, with Application for Patent Serial No:  
2,438,034, on August 21, 2003, by IPL INC., assignee of Rock Nolet and Eric  
Frederickson, for "Open Five-Piece Container with Bail Bar Arrangements".

  
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Sylvie Légaré

Agent certificateur/Certifying Officer

November 13, 2003

Date

Canada

(CIPO 68)  
04-09-02

O P I C  C I P O

## **ABSTRACT**

A five-piece open container wherein opposite side edges and opposite end edges are pivotally foldable onto a bottom piece includes a pair of bail bar arrangements pivotally mounted to the upper edges of the end pieces and adapted to engage the upper edges of the opposite side edges of the container to thereby reinforce the open five-piece container when in the erected position.

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**TITLE OF THE INVENTION**

Open five-piece container with bail bar arrangements

**5 FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention pertains to a container formed of a bottom piece and a pair of opposite side pieces and a pair of opposite end pieces which are hingedly foldable onto the bottom piece. More particularly, the present invention pertains to such container having a pair of bail bar arrangements to reinforce the open container when the side pieces and end pieces are in the erected position.

Five-piece open containers are well-known and comprise a bottom piece formed of plastics material and four side pieces also formed of plastics material and pivotally mounted to the bottom piece so that the side pieces may be pivotally moved between an erected position and a non erected folded position.

The upper corner of each piece is provided moving parts which are integral with the side pieces and which enable the side pieces to be secured in an erected inter-engagement. One example of such container may be found described in applicant's U.S. patent No. 5,515,987 issued May 14, 1996. Some five-piece open containers comprise side pieces which are much longer than the end pieces; hence, the side pieces may be subjected to flexing when similarly constructed containers are stacked one above the other. One example of such open container may be found described in applicant's Canadian patent No. 2,202,119 issued May 23, 2000.

**OBJECTS AND STATEMENT OF THE INVENTION**

It is an object of the present invention to provide an open five-piece container wherein the side pieces are prevented to flex under heavy loads.

This is achieved by providing a five-piece open container with a pair of pivotable bail bar arrangements which further secure the container in its erected position,

## CLAIMS

1. A container comprising:
  - a bottom piece having opposite side edges and opposite end edges;
  - a pair of opposite side pieces, each having an upper edge and a lower edge, said lower edge hingedly connected to an associated side edge of said bottom piece;
  - a pair of opposite end pieces, each having an upper edge and a lower edge, said lower edge being hingedly connected to associated end edge of said bottom piece;
  - latching means for securing said side pieces and said end pieces to one another in a vertical condition so as to form an open five-piece container;
  - a pair of bail bar arrangements having one end hingedly connected to the upper edge of said end pieces and an opposite end;
  - said upper edges of said side pieces having lodging means receiving opposite end portions of said opposite end of said bail bar arrangement;
  - whereby said bail bar arrangements are pivotable between a first position wherein said bail bar arrangements rests substantially horizontally on said side pieces to reinforce said side pieces and a second position substantially parallel to outer faces of said end pieces.
2. A container as defined in claim 1, wherein each said bail bar arrangement consists of a  $\pi$ -shaped configuration consisting of two parallel arms having one end hingedly connected to said end piece and an opposite end integral with a transverse rod having opposite ends engaged in said upper edges of said side pieces.
3. A container as defined in claim 2, wherein the upper edges of said side pieces define a recess configured to provide a snap-in engagement of said opposite ends of said rod.

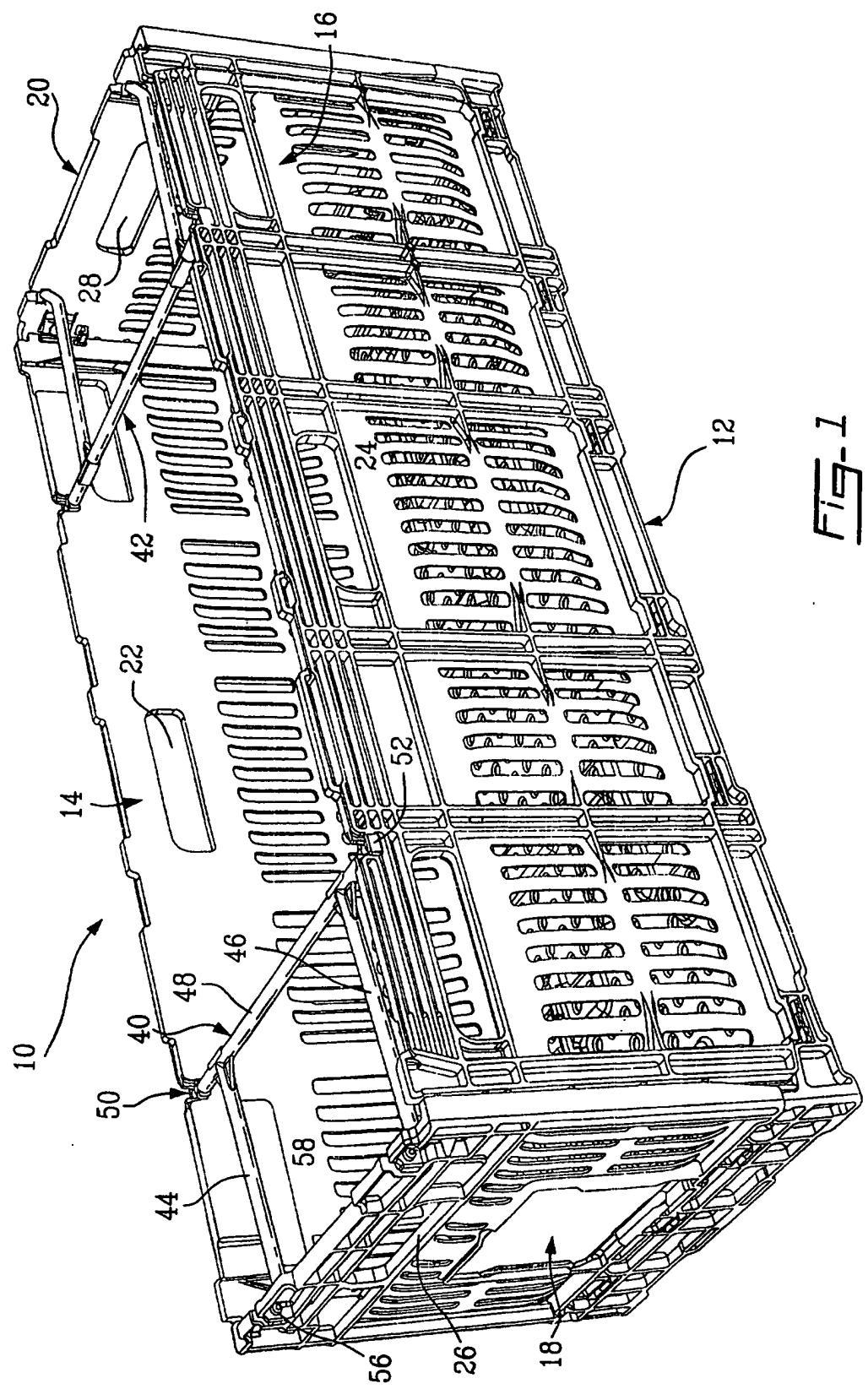


FIG-1

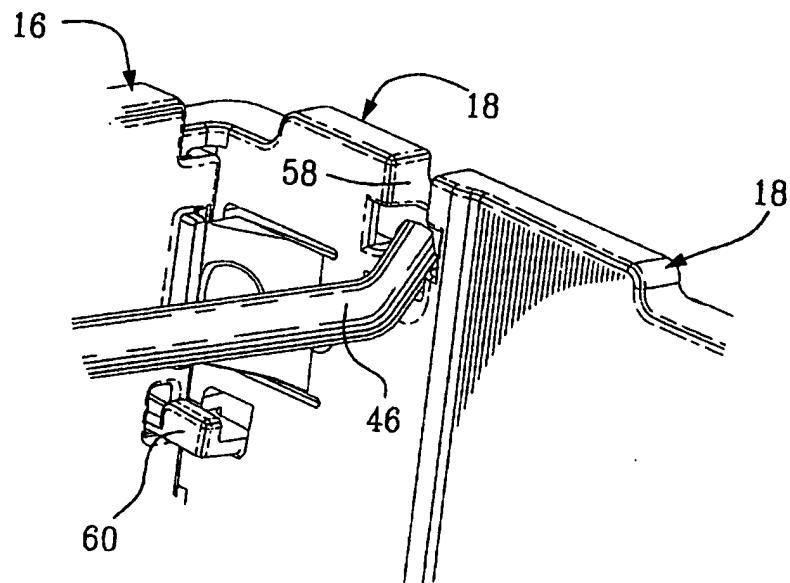


Fig-2

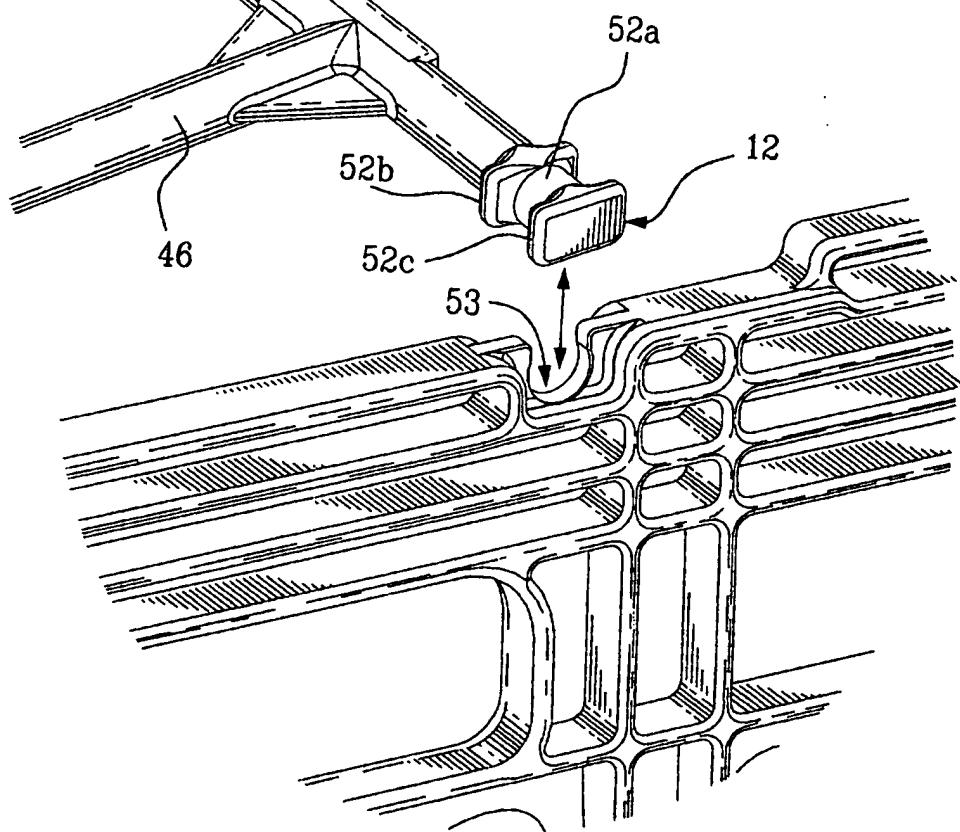


Fig-3

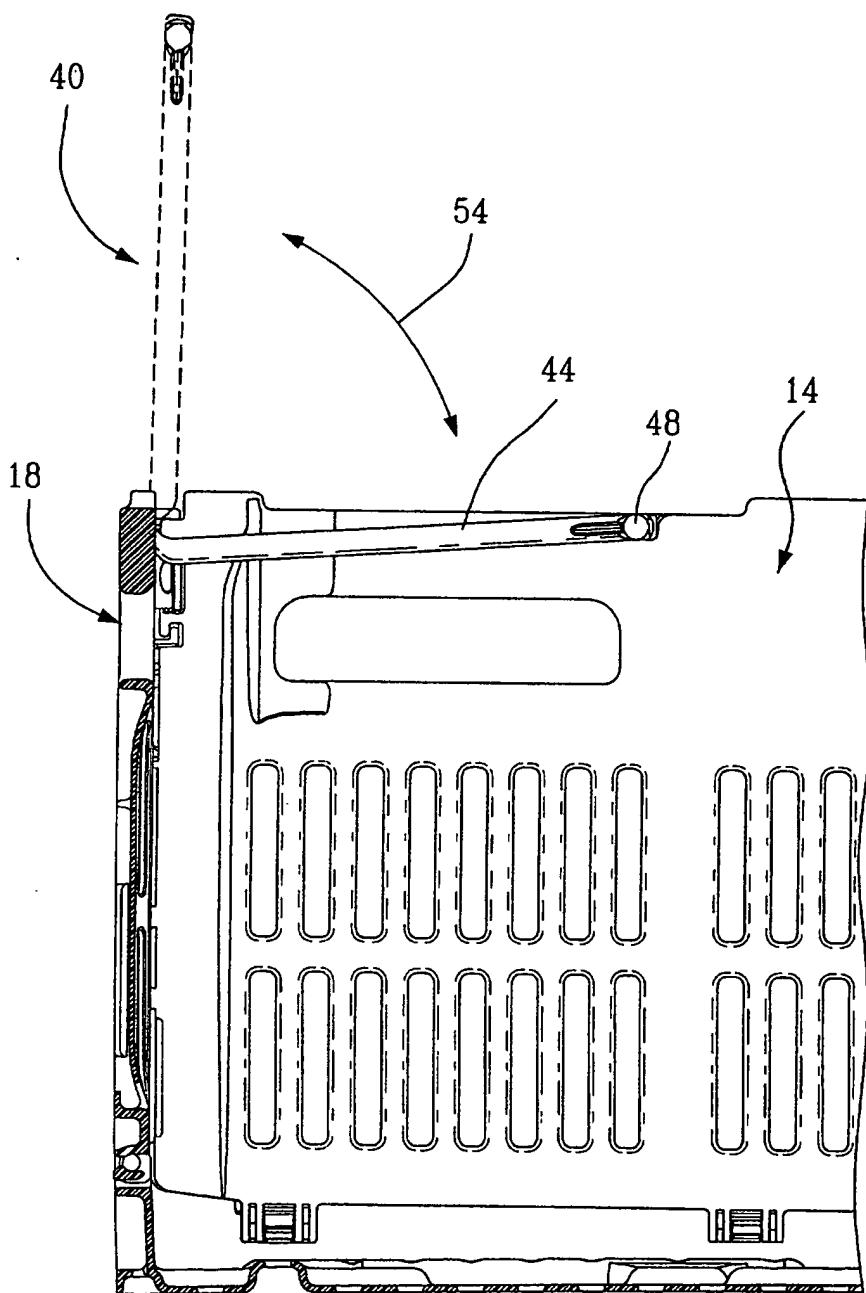


Fig-4

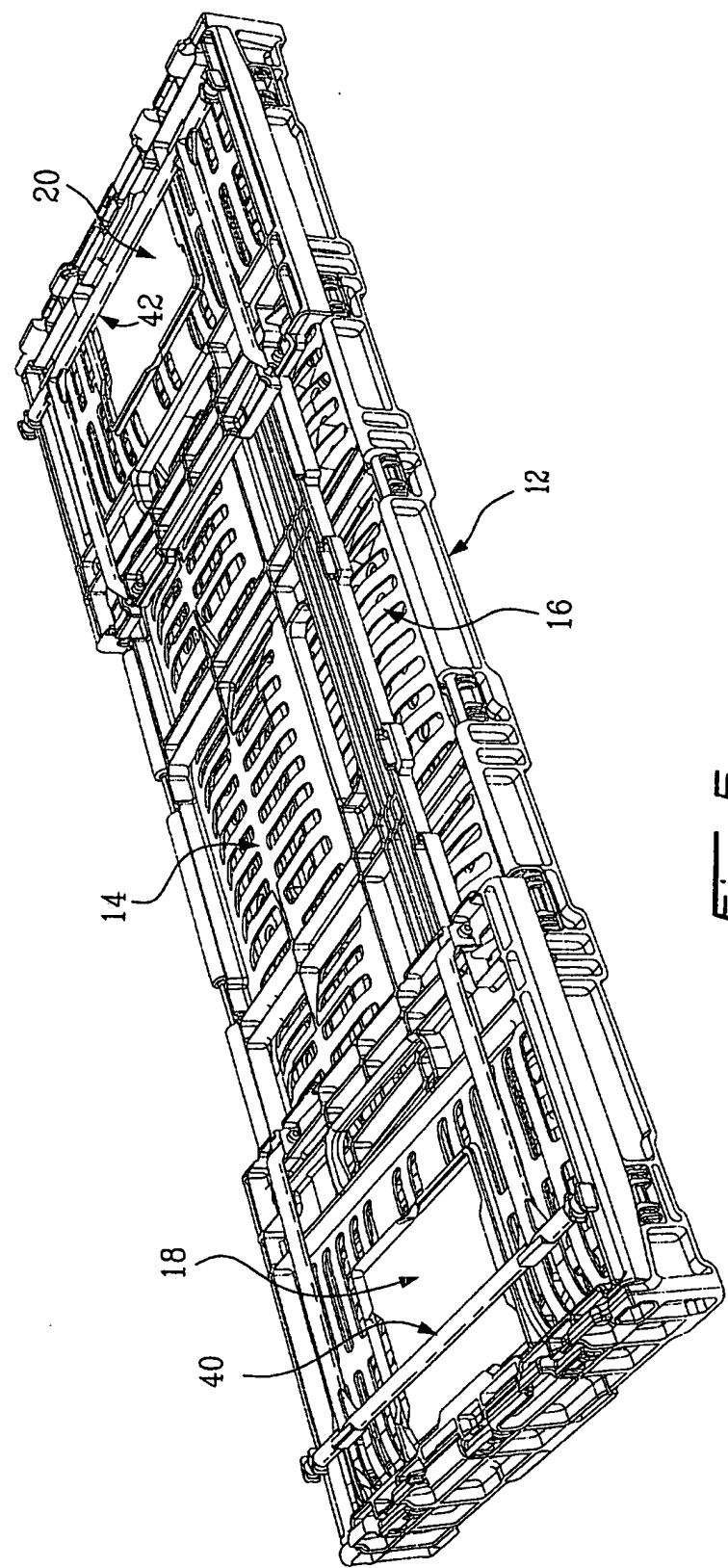


FIG. 5

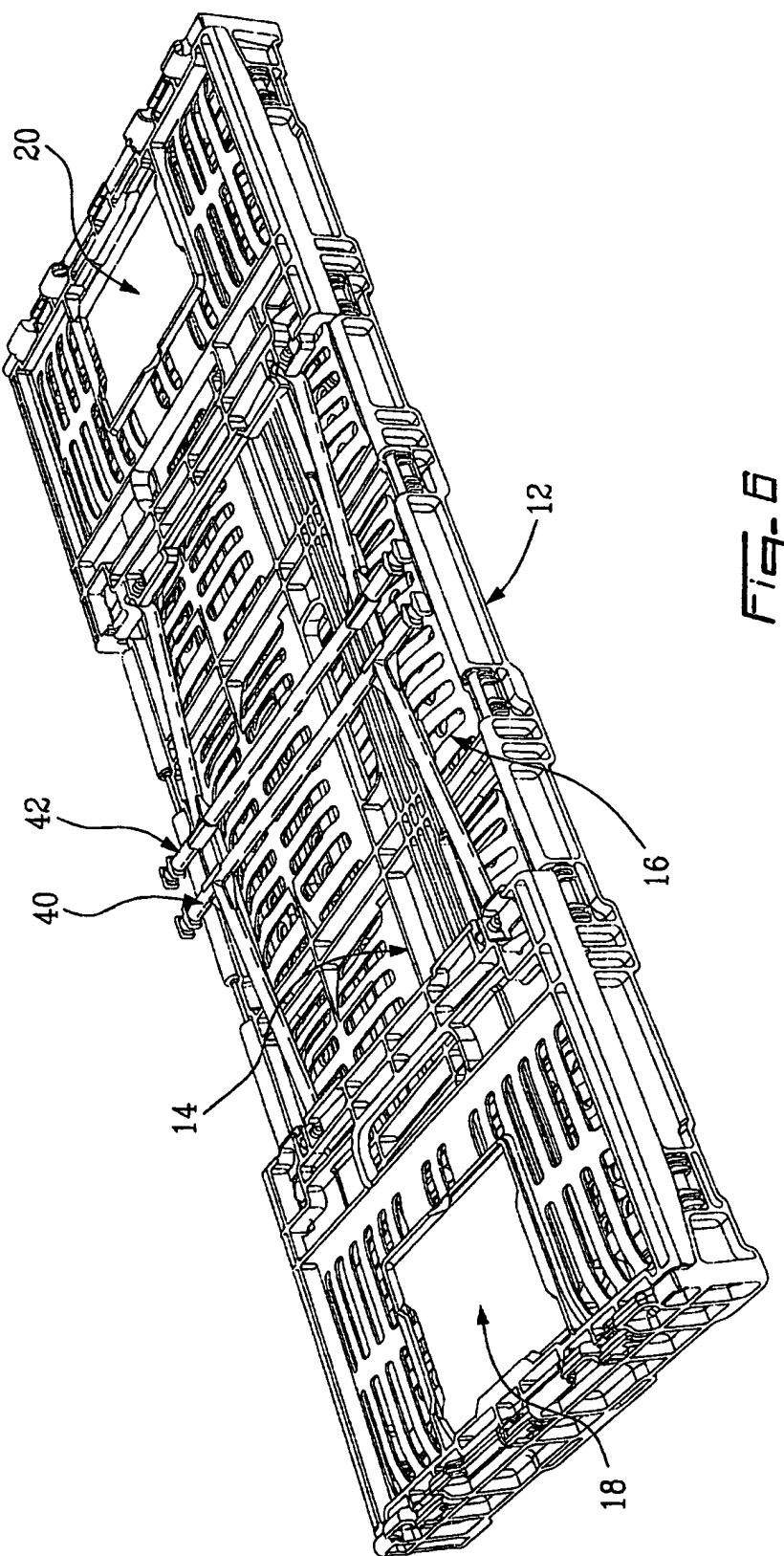


Fig. 6

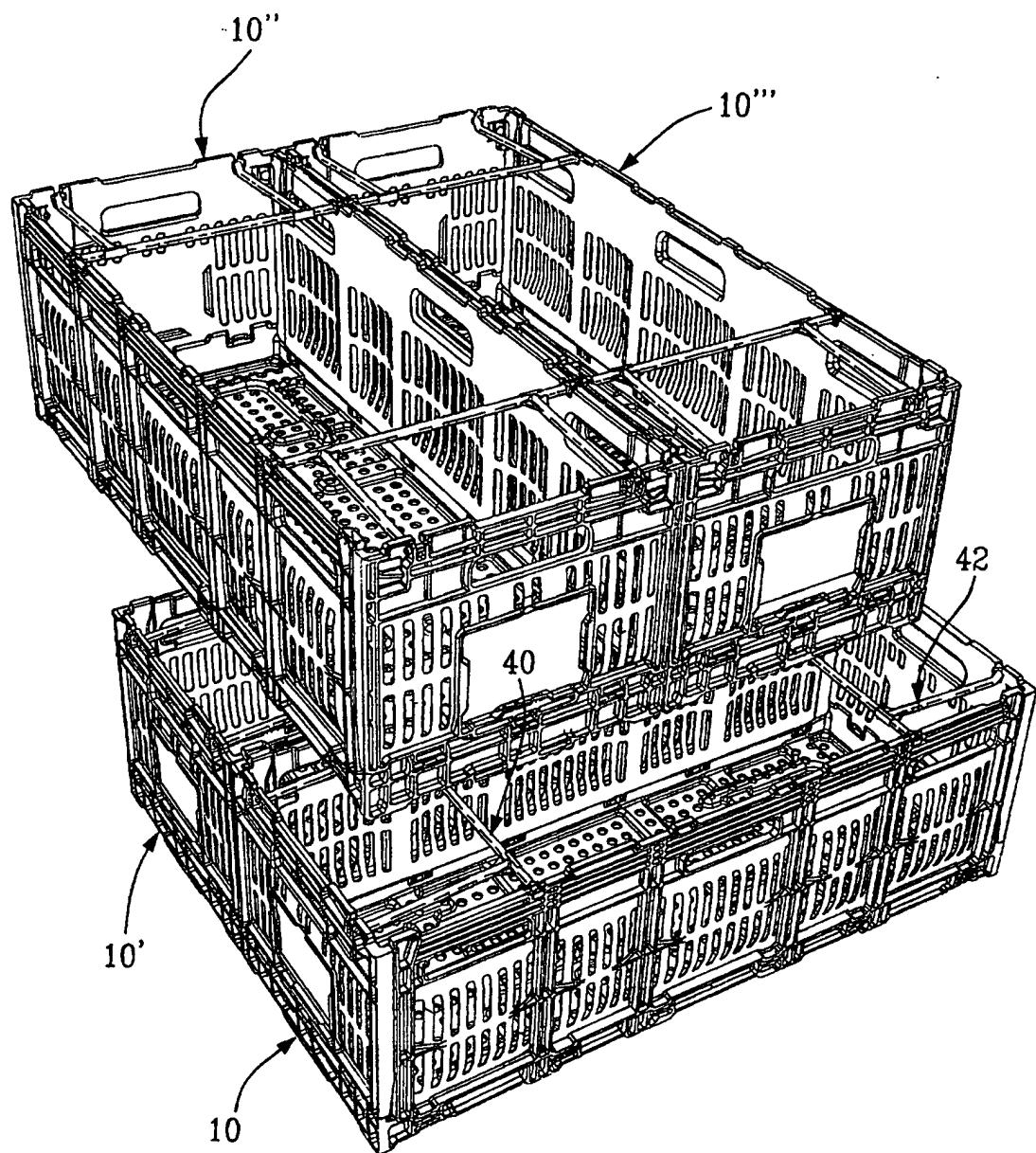


Fig-7